

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission

From: Jeff Churchill, Long Range Planning Manager 425-556-2492
Becky Frey, Principal Planner 425-556-2750
Lauren Alpert, Senior Planner 425-556-2460
Glenn Coil, Senior Planner 425-556-2742
Ian Lefcourte, Senior Planner 425-556-2438
Odra Cárdenas, Planner 425-556-2439
Planning and Community Development

Date: August 30, 2023

Subject: Redmond 2050 Monthly Briefing

PURPOSE

This month's focus is on preliminary updates to the Redmond 2050 project schedule.

REDMOND 2050 PROJECT SCHEDULE

Several factors have caused staff to reconsider the phased approach for Redmond 2050, and instead pursue an approach where most policies and regulations would be adopted simultaneously in Q4 2024. The factors are:

- Zoning district changes arising from Redmond 2050 will require significant updates to the permitting system, and a single large change will be less work than multiple smaller changes.
- There are economic headwinds in development and construction, reducing the need to implement new Overlake regulations in 2023.
- Developers have told staff and the Planning Commission that multiple, sequential changes to regulations are more difficult to track than one larger change.

Redmond 2050 Monthly Briefing

- Moving all final action to 2024 gives the Planning Commission, City Council, and community members ample opportunity to consider information from the supplemental draft environmental impact statement, which is expected to be published in September, and the final environmental impact statement, which is expected to be published toward the end of 2023.

There are some significant downsides to moving all final action to late 2024. First, once the decision is made, it will not be possible to accelerate again if, for example, economic conditions improve. Second, it delays, if only for several months, implementation of policies and regulations that advance several policy objectives like housing affordability and climate resilience. There are also some developers that are working on projects that are waiting for the new regulations, so the delay will have impacts to their schedules as well.

The revised approach would not significantly impact the sequence of timing of the Planning Commission's review. The main impact is that the Commission would not make any further recommendations to the City Council until after the final environmental impact statement is published. Topics currently before the Commission would continue to be reviewed, and topics planned in 2024 would be brought forward as planned. Instead of a series of ordinances adopted by the Council in 2023 and 2024, there would be a set of ordinances adopted at a single meeting in Q4 2024. It is also likely that some work to implement Redmond 2050 policies would be deferred into 2025.

Staff is finalizing a schedule to share with the City Council at its regular business meeting on September 5, and will share with the Planning Commission once finalized.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Eastside For All co-hosted an engagement event with the City featuring our Redmondscapes game. The room was full and everyone enjoyed their evening. Materials were available in English in Spanish, with interpretation in Portuguese, Russian, and Chinese. Co-hosted by Eastside for All with support from IACS, Brazilian Community Services, BizDiversity, ESL and Culture Coach, TEAM TEAD, United Hub, and MAPS-MCRS. The Redmondscapes game was a huge hit, even with the translating needed for at least a quarter of the room, from all ages (had college ages to seniors participate - the few people that brought little kids had them color, etc).



Redmond 2050 Monthly Briefing

- The City held several events related to the Overlake code and received feedback as well as provided answers to stakeholder questions. Additional events to be scheduled.
- The City has been working with Eastside for All and their subs to get the word out about Redmond 2050 and provide a variety of engagement opportunities in multiple languages and in different venues. Staff is actively working with the different community organizations to help co-create materials for our next outreach cycle, which will focus on community design and what an inclusive community can/should look like here in Redmond.

Planning Commissioners and community members are invited to share and attend the following upcoming engagement opportunities:

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sept. 20	4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Library Pop-Up	Redmond Library, 15990 NE 85 th St.
Sept. 26 (tentative)	5 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Pint with a Planner	Flatstick Pub, 7530 164 th Ave. NE

A few other events will be scheduled for September, included engagement efforts with Eastside For All and Overlake code events. Events are posted to www.redmond.gov/1425/Get-Involved when details are finalized.

OTHER UPDATES & WORK UNDERWAY

- The first draft of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability policies were reviewed by the Redmond 2050 Community Advisory Committee on August 10 and is on the Planning Commission's agenda for September.
- First draft policies for Downtown and Community Design are expected to be published in mid-September.
- Second draft policies for Human Services and Annexation and Regional Planning are coming to the Redmond 2050 CAC in September and to the Planning Commission in October.
- The Supplemental Draft EIS is expected to be published in September.

ATTACHMENTS

None